



ADVANCING SCIENCE, SERVING SOCIETY

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Chief Executive Officer and
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Dear Representative:

On behalf of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world's largest general scientific organization, I am writing to urge you to support the America COMPETES Act (H.R. 5116) that was passed by the U.S. Senate last week. AAAS believes that, by enhancing budgets for fundamental and multidisciplinary research across multiple agencies, and investing in a better-prepared, better-educated domestic workforce, passage of the America COMPETES Act will help the United States keep at the forefront of technological development and economic growth.

The original America COMPETES Act was a hallmark of collaboration between the branches of government and across party lines, and we are pleased that the Senate was able to continue to work in bipartisan fashion to enact it again last week. We hope that the House of Representatives will continue this spirit of bipartisanship so this bill can be signed into law.

While we recognize that the funding levels laid out in the amended America COMPETES Act do not reflect the increases originally supported in the House bill, the Senate version embodies the critical principle of investing in research, education and innovation.

Federal investment in research across agencies is critical to fostering innovation and drives our economy. We encourage you to continue to support the research and innovation enterprise.

Sincerely,

Alan I. Leshner